

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

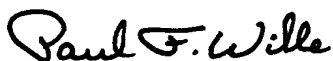
Claims 1-12 were rejected as indefinite because "it is not specifically stated ... what the first and the second threshold value represent." A threshold, or a count, is simply a number. A computer does not know what a number represents. How then can a claim be indefinite for not saying what number represents? How does representation affect a step in a method? The Examiner did not say that the step was unclear. One simply defines two numbers. What could be simpler? This may be one of those breadth/definiteness situations and it is suggested that the Examiner's comment relates to breadth, not indefiniteness.

Claims 1-12 were rejected for double patenting. The claims have been amended to recite "count" rather than "threshold" to emphasize the digital nature of the claimed invention. It is believed clear that there is no overlap between claims 1-12 and the claims of U.S. Patent 6,847,930. Someone practicing the method claimed in the patent cannot be practicing the method claimed herein nor vice-versa. Therefore, there cannot be an extension of monopoly or possible harassment by separate assignees. A "voltage threshold" is not a "count." Analog is not digital.

Claims 13 and 17 were rejected as anticipated by Weigand. Claim 13 has been amended to delete the negative recitation and add a positive recitation. It is respectfully submitted that the analysis recited is not disclosed by the Weigand patent.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-17 are in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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